AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The following purely formal amendments to the Specification are made in accordance with the Examiner's comments in the Office Action:

Change "a" to "an" at page 1, line 25 (in the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 23):

In a commodity management radio communicating system used in a convenience store or a like, a radio communication base station is connected to a~~a~~ an inventory controller connected to a plurality of POS (Point of Sale) terminals, radio communication signals are received and transmitted from a plurality of radio communication terminals held by monitoring persons of the radio communication base station to communicate information such as kinds and number of commodities. With this system, the inventory controller is capable of executing processes such as commodity inventory management, inventory-counting and item-checking.

Please amend a paragraph on page 3, lines 16-25, as follows:

A specific portable radio communication terminal 4 receives a control ~~channel~~ signal in the radio communication ~~signal~~ channel from the radio communication base station 3, executes an operation (carrier sense) for checking whether a carrier wave from another portable radio communication terminal 4 is transmitted or not, and recognizes that no portable radio communication terminal 4 radio-communicates. Then, the specific portable radio communication terminal 4 establishes a communication procedure (protocol) of a radio communicating line and then transmits data to the radio communication base station 3.

Change "exits" to "is not present" at page 4, line 20 (in the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 14):

As described above, in the commodity management radio communicating system, the inventory controller 1 and the portable radio communication terminals are connected by radio communication lines via the radio communication base station 3, it is possible to inquire about inventory and to execute processes such as inventory

counting via the portable radio communication terminal 4 though a monitoring person exits is not present at any place in a store.

Change "an" to "a" at page 4, line 22 (in the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 21):

Then, in the portable radio communication terminal 4, when an a radio communication error occurs or a problem occurs in that it takes a longer time for a process than usual or like, a maintenance person can judge whether there is a fault in the portable radio communication terminal 4 or not by carrying out a radio communication test. For an example of the radio communication test, a test program is loaded into a specific portable radio communication terminal 4 having a problem and the specific portable radio communication terminal 4 is placed in a test mode, and then a radio loop-back test for the radio communication test of the specific portable radio communication terminal 4 is started. In accordance with results of the radio loop back test, it is judged whether the portable radio communication terminal 4 has the fault or not.

Please amend paragraph on page 5, lines 6-15, as follows:

However, in a conventional fault monitoring method for the commodity management radio communicating apparatus, there is a problem in that a user can not carry out the radio communication test by oneself[[.]] and

As its reasons, only the maintenance person can carry out operations in order to move the radio communication base station into test mode, for example, by removing an apparatus case in the radio communication base station and by turning ON power while pushing a test mode switch or by removing an interface cable and then turning ON power.

Please amend paragraph on page 5, lines 20-25, as follows:

As its reasons, It happens because application software in the portable radio communication terminal is not configured so as to be capable of carrying out the radio communication test while operating and an interception is given to the radio communication in operating though the application software is merely modified so as

to carry out the radio communication test.

Change "a" to "an" at page 6, line 16 (in the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 12):

According to a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a fault monitoring method of a commodity management radio communicating apparatus in which plural portable radio communication terminals in a commodity management system manage commodities by communicating with a an inventory controller via a radio communication base station, the fault monitoring method including:

Change "a" to "an" at page 8, line 1 (in the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 25):

According to a second aspect of the present invention, there is provided a storage medium storing a fault monitoring program to cause a computer to carry out a fault monitoring method of a commodity management radio communicating apparatus in which plural portable radio communication terminals in a commodity management system manage commodities by communicating with a an inventory controller via a radio communication base station, the fault monitoring program including:

Change "a inventry" to "an inventory" at page 8, line 18 (in the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 13):

According to a third aspect of the present invention, there is provided a fault monitoring program to cause a computer to carry out a fault monitoring method of a commodity management radio communicating apparatus in which plural portable radio communication terminals in a commodity management system manage commodities by communicating with a inventry an inventory controller via a radio communication base station, the fault monitoring program including: